

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IAEA V 07176 271709Z

43

ACTION OES-06

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INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
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UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 7176

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IAEA, TECH, SA
SUBJECT: FUTURE OF SOUTH AFRICA IN IAEA, INTERNATIONAL
HERALD TRIBUNE ARTICLE

REF: (A) STATE 211311, (B) IAEA VIENNA 7020 (NOTAL)

1. TEXT OF BINDER ARTICLE IN AUGUST 23 PARIS
INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, HEADLINED "BLACKS WANT
S. AFRICA OUT OF ATOM UNIT," SUB-HEAD "NIGERIAN
LEADING MOVE AT IAEA HEADQUARTERS," DATELINED
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 22 (NYT) IS MUCH LONGER THAN NY
TIMES ARTICLE TRANSMITTED REFTEL (A).

2. TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE A LARGE GROUP OF BLACK
AFRICAN COUNTRIES, LED BY NIGERIA, IS SEEKING TO BAR
SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY,
U.S. OFFICIALS REPORT.
QUOTE THE OFFICIALS SAID FRIDAY THAT THE AFRICAN GROUP
HAS BEEN ROUNDING UP SUPPORT DURING THE LAST FEW
WEEKS AT THE VIENNA HEADQUARTERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL
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PAGE 02 IAEA V 07176 271709Z

AGENCY FOR MOVES TO BE ATTEMPTED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE IAEA IN RIO DE JANEIRO NEXT MONTH.

QUOTE THE 109-MEMBER AGENCY, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED TO MONITOR AND SAFEGUARD ATOMIC ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS UNDER UNITED NATIONS AUSPICES, HAS NO PROVISIONS IN ITS STATUTES FOR EXPLUSION, U.S. OFFICIALS SAID.

QUOTE BUT A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERSHIP MAY VOTE SUSPENSION OF A MEMBER COUNTRY UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE AGENCY'S 17 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS.

QUOTE SOUTH AFRICA, BECAUSE OF ITS EARLY EMINENCE AS A URANIUM PRODUCER AND DEVELOPER OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, IS ONE OF THE FIVE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE IAEA GOVERNING BOARD.

QUOTE THE U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THAT THEY BELIEVED THE BLACK AFRICAN COUNTRIES WERE ALSO SEEKING TO OUST SOUTH AFRICA FROM ITS PERMANENT BOARD SEAT.

QUOTE THEY NOTED THAT THE BLACK AFRICANS, IN KEEPING WITH THEIR ANTI-APARTHEID CAMPAIGN, RAISED PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS IN PREVENTING SOUTH AFRICA FROM ATTENDING THE OPENING OF A REVIEW CONFERENCE TO THE 100 SIGNATORIES OF THE NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION TREATY AS AN OBSERVER IN MAY OF LAST YEAR. 'SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE NONPROLIFERATION TREATY GROUP,' A U.S. OFFICIAL REMARKED, "AND NOW IT PROBABLY NEVER WILL BE.'

QUOTE THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE MOVE MIGHT SET AN OMINOUS POLITICAL PRECEDENT.

QUOTE RECALLING THAT TAIWAN HAD BEEN SUSPENDED FROM THE IAEA FOUR YEARS AGO AFTER CHINA WAS ADMITTED TO THE UN IN ITS PLACE, HE POINTED OUT THAT, AS A RESULT, INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS ON TAIWAN'S EXTENSIVE ATOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WERE POSSIBLE ONLY BECAUSE TAIWAN STILL ABIDES BY IAEA CONTROLS.

QUOTE HE SAID THAT A SUCCESSFUL MOVE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA IN THE IAEA COULD SET THE STAGE FOR PARALLEL MOVES BY ARAB STATES AGAINST ISRAELI MEMBERSHIP. ISRAEL IS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE LEADING NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD WITH AN ATOMIC WEAPONS CAPABILITY AS WELL. END QUOTE. STONE

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PAGE 03 IAEA V 07176 271709Z

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